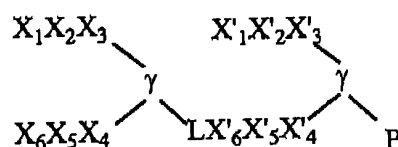


IN THE CLAIMS

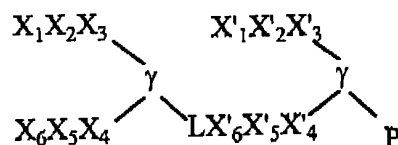
Please replace claims 16-19 and 27-38 with the following amended claims. Marked-up versions of these claims are attached hereto as Appendix A.

16. (Twice amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



wherein γ is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;
 X_1/X_6 , X_2/X_5 , X_3/X_4 , X'_1/X'_6 , X'_2/X'_5 , and X'_3/X'_4 represent six carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;
 L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of β -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid (δ); and
 wherein P represents zero to eight polyamides of claim 1.

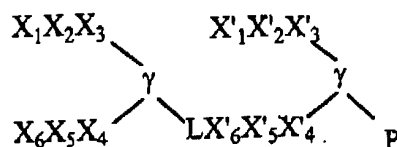
17. (Twice amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



wherein γ is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;
 X_1/X_6 , X_2/X_5 , X_3/X_4 , X'_1/X'_6 , X'_2/X'_5 , and X'_3/X'_4 represent six carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;
 L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of β -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid (δ); and

wherein P represents zero to six polyamides of claim 1.

18. (Twice amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



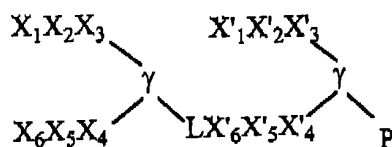
wherein γ is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;

X_1/X_6 , X_2/X_5 , X_3/X_4 , X'_1/X'_6 , X'_2/X'_5 , and X'_3/X'_4 represent six carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of β -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid (δ); and

wherein P represents zero to four polyamides of claim 1.

19. (Twice amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



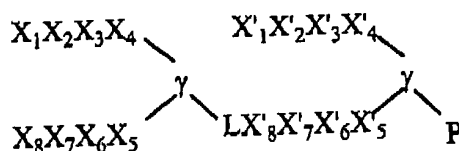
wherein γ is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;

X_1/X_6 , X_2/X_5 , X_3/X_4 , X'_1/X'_6 , X'_2/X'_5 , and X'_3/X'_4 represent six carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of β -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid (δ); and

wherein P represents zero to two polyamides of claim 1.

27. (Amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



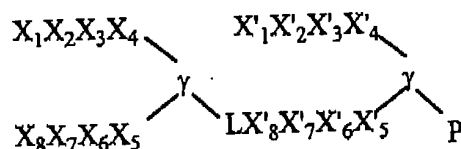
wherein γ is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;

X_1/X_8 , X_2/X_7 , X_3/X_6 , X_4/X_5 , X'_1/X'_8 , X'_2/X'_7 , X'_3/X'_6 , and X'_4/X'_5 represent eight carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of β -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid (δ), and

wherein P represents zero to eight polyamides of claim 1.

28. (Amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



wherein γ is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;

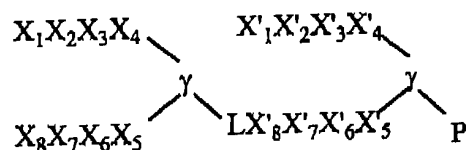
X_1/X_8 , X_2/X_7 , X_3/X_6 , X_4/X_5 , X'_1/X'_8 , X'_2/X'_7 , X'_3/X'_6 , and X'_4/X'_5 represent eight carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of β -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid (δ), and

wherein P represents zero to six polyamides of claim 1.

29. (Amended)

A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



wherein γ is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;

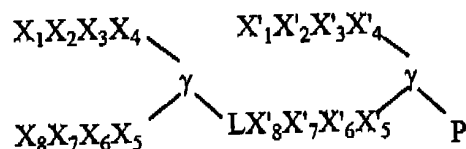
X_1/X_8 , X_2/X_7 , X_3/X_6 , X_4/X_5 , X'_1/X'_8 , X'_2/X'_7 , X'_3/X'_6 , and X'_4/X'_5 represent eight carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of β -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid (δ), and

wherein P represents zero to four polyamides of claim 1.

30. (Amended)

A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



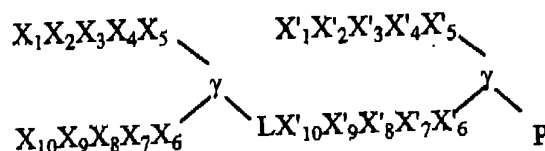
wherein γ is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;

X_1/X_8 , X_2/X_7 , X_3/X_6 , X_4/X_5 , X'_1/X'_8 , X'_2/X'_7 , X'_3/X'_6 , and X'_4/X'_5 represent eight carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of β -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid (δ), and

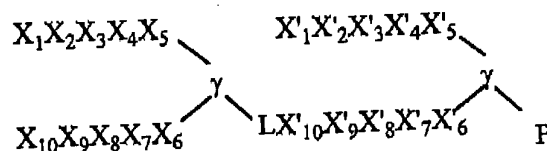
wherein P represents zero to two polyamides of claim 1.

31. (Amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



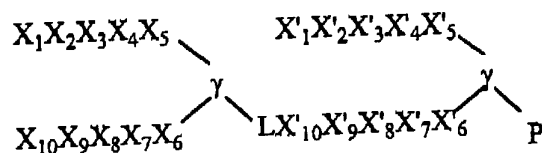
wherein γ is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;
 X_1/X_{10} , X_2/X_9 , X_3/X_8 , X_4/X_7 , X_5/X_6 , X'_1/X'_{10} , X'_2/X'_9 , X'_3/X'_8 , X'_4/X'_7 , and X'_5/X'_6
 represent ten carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one
 binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the
 group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the
 minor groove to be bound;
 L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of β -alanine
 and 5-aminovaleric acid (δ); and
 wherein P represents zero to eight polyamides of claim 1.

32. (Amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



wherein γ is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;
 X_1/X_{10} , X_2/X_9 , X_3/X_8 , X_4/X_7 , X_5/X_6 , X'_1/X'_{10} , X'_2/X'_9 , X'_3/X'_8 , X'_4/X'_7 , and X'_5/X'_6
 represent ten carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one
 binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the
 group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the
 minor groove to be bound;
 L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of β -alanine
 and 5-aminovaleric acid (δ); and
 wherein P represents zero to six polyamides of claim 1.

33. (Amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:

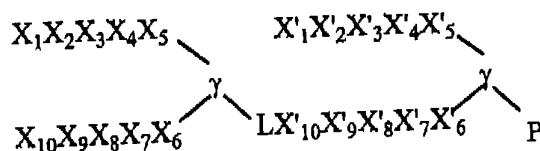


wherein γ is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;
 X_1/X_{10} , X_2/X_9 , X_3/X_8 , X_4/X_7 , X_5/X_6 , X'_1/X'_{10} , X'_2/X'_9 , X'_3/X'_8 , X'_4/X'_7 , and X'_5/X'_6
 represent ten carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one
 binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the
 group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the
 minor groove to be bound;

L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of β -alanine
 and 5-aminovaleric acid (δ); and

wherein P represents zero to four polyamides of claim 1.

34. (Amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:

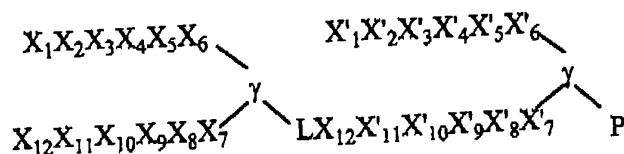


wherein γ is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;
 X_1/X_{10} , X_2/X_9 , X_3/X_8 , X_4/X_7 , X_5/X_6 , X'_1/X'_{10} , X'_2/X'_9 , X'_3/X'_8 , X'_4/X'_7 , and X'_5/X'_6
 represent ten carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one
 binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the
 group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the
 minor groove to be bound;

L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of β -alanine
 and 5-aminovaleric acid (δ); and

wherein P represents zero to two polyamides of claim 1.

35. (Amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



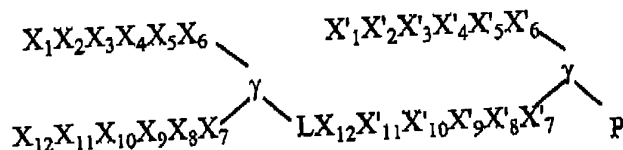
wherein γ is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;

wherein γ is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from α -amino acids, X_1/X_{12} , X_2/X_{11} , X_3/X_{10} , X_4/X_9 , X_5/X_8 , X_6/X_7 , X'_1/X'_{12} , X'_2/X'_{11} , X'_3/X'_{10} , X'_4/X'_9 , X'_5/X'_8 and X'_6/X'_7 represent twelve carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of β -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid (8); and

wherein P represents zero to eight polyamides of claim 1.

36. (Amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



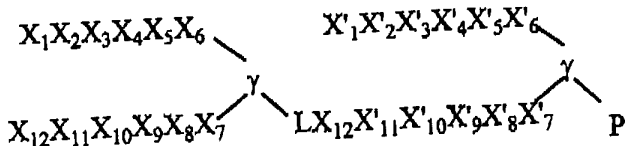
wherein γ is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;

wherein γ is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from α -amino acids, X_1/X_{12} , X_2/X_{11} , X_3/X_{10} , X_4/X_9 , X_5/X_8 , X_6/X_7 , X'_1/X'_{12} , X'_2/X'_{11} , X'_3/X'_{10} , X'_4/X'_9 , X'_5/X'_8 and X'_6/X'_7 represent twelve carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of β -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid (δ); and

wherein P represents zero to six polyamides of claim 1.

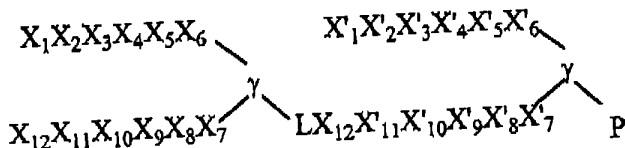
37. (Amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



wherein γ is a chiral nanopillar linkage structure;
 X_1/X_{12} , X_2/X_{11} , X_3/X_{10} , X_4/X_9 , X_5/X_8 , X_6/X_7 , X'_1/X'_{12} , X'_2/X'_{11} , X'_3/X'_{10} , X'_4/X'_9 , X'_5/X'_8
 and X'_6/X'_7 represent twelve carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs
 wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are)
 selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA
 base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

wherein P represents zero to four polyamides of claim 1.

38. (Amended)



X_1/X_{12} , X_2/X_{11} , X_3/X_{10} , X_4/X_9 , X_5/X_8 , X_6/X_7 , X'_1/X'_{12} , X'_2/X'_{11} , X'_3/X'_{10} , X'_4/X'_9 , X'_5/X'_8 and X'_6/X'_7 represent twelve carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

wherein P represents zero to two polyamides of claim 1.